

BARBAROUS TREATMENT OF FEDERAL PRISONERS.

Capt. Henry Allen, who was in command of the Government schooner William C. Atwater, when she was captured by a rebel craft called the *Spray*, on the 10th of May last, off Cedar Keys, Florida, arrived in New York yesterday, having, together with his son, been a prisoner to the rebels for four months. From Capt. Allen's statement, which we find in the *New York Herald*, it appears that the rebels who came under his immediate observation are the most cowardly and barbarous set of scoundrels in the world. The following is the statement of the Captain:

"The schooner William C. Atwater, of which I was the captain, belonged to New Haven, and was in the service of the Government at the time of her capture by the rebel steamer *Spray*. The crew of my schooner numbered eight men. We arrived off Cedar Keys, Florida, on the 10th of May, on which day we were captured by the *Spray*, which had on board thirty-one men armed to the teeth with bow-knives, revolvers, muskets with bayonets, &c. The captors took us to Apalachicola, where we arrived on the 13th of May, when myself and crew were placed in confinement in the cockpit of the *Atwater*, and a strong guard set over us. The rebels treated us in a shocking manner. Sometimes they would come aboard at twelve o'clock at night, pull me out of my bed, and order all sorts of indignities to me.

On one of these occasions, several of them came frantically in, in a beastly state of intoxication, where I was sleeping, dragged me up on deck, brandished knives, bayonets and other weapons over my head, and threatened me with instant death. One of them struck me in the cheek with a bayonet, wounding me slightly, while others, carrying ropes in their hands, shouted out, 'Hang the Yankee son of a b—h, he must never see the North again.' They did not, however, carry their threats into execution, and after they had abused themselves at my expense for some time longer, I was again placed in confinement.

We were often left three and four days without a morsel of food of any kind, and the only means of subsistence we had was by catching catfish and cooking them in the salt water. The rebels would allow us to go into the galley or to fight a fowl. Sometimes there would be from twenty-five to thirty rebels on board keeping guard. During the four months that we were prisoners, I never saw a soldier among them. When I arrived at Apalachicola, on the 13th of May, the rebels got their threats into execution, and after they had abused themselves at my expense for some time longer, I was again placed in confinement.

Finally, I was taken to Richmond and placed in the lower prison, situated on the corner of Main and Twelfth streets. They said as I was an 'alien' enemy, they would place me there for safe keeping. I was imprisoned here on the lower floor, among a parcel of dilapidated machinery and filth of every kind. I begged of Capt. Gibbs, who was placed in command of the prison, to let me go to such a filthy hole, and brought him to allow me the privilege of seeing Gen. Winder. This last request was conceded to me, and I told the General of the manner in which I had been treated. His reply was, 'Do you want to be treated better than all the others?' You have the crew of the *Savannah* in New York in irons, and we are going to treat you in the same way." The General also remarked that he was sorry he had not a worse place to put me in.

However, through the influence of the Secretary of War, I was not again shut up in the prison, having been placed in a private house, where I was confined all the time. Finally, I was taken before the Attorney General at Richmond, and he released me, for the simple reason that (as I had destroyed my charters partly privately, before the rebels could get hold of it) there were no just grounds for detaining me. At the time the *Atwater* was captured, she was in ballast, and proceeding to Tortugas for lumber. Thankful to Providence for having got out so easily, I at once commenced my journey to New York. All along the route, the rebels made me come out on the platform of the cars, whenever a stoppage was made, to exhibit myself to excited and depraved looking mobs, who looked me and threatened my life. I only got three miles during my journey from Apalachicola to Richmond. They would not even sell myself and three of my crew, whom I had along with me, anything, as they said they wanted to stand to see me, and they did not want us to ever see the North again.

I arrived in New York October 7th, and met my wife and three children, who had been in the hands of the rebels for four months. I have never spent four such miserable months in my life as those in which I was subjected to the 'tender mercies' of the rebels."

SECESSION BARBARITIES.

Two or three weeks ago, a couple of men from an Illinois regiment in Missouri started out to pass a few hours in a scouting and hunting expedition. As they did not return, a squad of soldiers was sent out the next day to search for them. After going a few miles, the soldiers met a person, who informed them that, at a place which he named, he had seen two men, like those they described, fired on by a dozen secessionists who were prowling through that region. They went to the place and found one, and only one, of their lost comrades. His legs and arms had been cut off and laid across each other upon his body; his head, severed from the trunk, was set upright upon his chest, and the figure 19, the number of his regiment, were marked with his own blood upon his arms.

Over the mutilated body of the victim, the soldiers knelt, and swore an awful oath to take no prisoners. The secessionists are giving to this war a most appalling character. As a contemporary justly remarks, the transforming power of the terrible evil which has broken out like some deadly pestilence among the people of the United States, converting individuals supposed to be civilized into barbarians, seems to have no likeness in history; the cruelty it has suddenly engendered can find no parallel except that of Sepoy rebellion which made the Christian world shudder as its details became known.

In Western Virginia, it has taken to midnight burnings of dwellings occupied by the Union soldiers, and the families, only by helpless women and children, the escapes related in two cases being the narrowest it is possible to imagine, whilst every outrage known to the criminal calendar seems to run riot in Kentucky and Missouri. The destruction of railroads and bridges, where the lives of the innocent are not involved in the service, contained a greater number of really worthy men than almost any even of the "crack" companies of lighter-complexioned rebels in Louisiana or elsewhere. It is more than probable that Mr. Sillid and Mr. Benjamin, and the Messrs. Wallop generally, who lead off in this rebellion, claim the ownership of a good many negroes, who, when judged by the proper standard, are much better men, and would make much better citizens, than are their ambitious, restless and tyrannical masters.

MUST'N'T BE TOUCHED.

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Though all this may be true, yet judging of the intent of the treatment of our captive soldiers in this case, by the low and degrading estimate put upon the negro by the Southern mind, it is evident that a mean and malicious insult was intended. And it was insult added to injury; for "our brave boys" had been shamefully maltreated in the Confederate Capital, and had now been brought to the once "free" and "free" city of New Orleans, to undergo new and torturing privations and hardships, and even, perchance, as threatened, to toil with slaves in rearing works of rebel defence. It, therefore, seemed good to the "Chivalry" who boast of their "high sense of honor," to add insult to injury already perpetrated, and yet to be perpetrated, upon defenceless prisoners of war. It seemed good to the Southern slave-drivers to give these "Yankees" a practical illustration of the doctrine of "negro equality"—for do not Yankees believe in the "insane" assertion of the "old" and "obsolete" document known as the Declaration of Independence, that "all men are created free and equal?" Of course, they would, then march to prison with "negroes." It seemed good to the Southern "gentlemen" to show these Yankees in what estimation they hold Northern "mud-sills," "greasy mechanics," and "dirty farmers," who earn their bread by the sweat of their own brows, or gain competence and wealth by their own and the required labor of their fellow-men. Therefore, out upon these low-lived fellows, who never even "aspired" to own a "nigger." Let "niggers" do escort duty for such. And so the Yankee soldiers went to prison, through the streets of New Orleans, with their negro guard, amid the taunts and jeers of infuriated slave-drivers.

This incident serves to illustrate the wicked purpose of the Rebellion, which has been shamefully avowed by its leaders to be the rearing of a hideous fabric of Despotism, with slavery for its chief corner-stone, upon the ruins of the noble house of Liberty, which our fathers bequeathed to us. It boldly declares that in every well-regulated society, or government, there must be a dominant and a subject class—"gentlemen" and "mud-sills"—masters and slaves. The universal spread of slavery over the American continent, and the ultimate extinction of Free Labor, is the purpose of the present gigantic Slaveholders' Rebellion, upon which the whole civilized world now looks with anxious gaze. Let it succeed, and no color of skin will afford immunity against the fell and sure result of its success—the enslavement of the masses, white and black, in the North as well as in the South. With the devoted slaveholders who have inaugurated and are prosecuting the unholy war against the Government, white men who labor with their own hands are no better than black men. We cannot help thinking that our brave Yankee boys did more fully realize the cause and purpose of the unholy Rebellion as they marched to prison, the other day, with their "negro" guard, through the streets of New Orleans, than do those men at home in the free North, who cry aloud, "Slavery must be touched."

We have no idea that there is such a "peculiar" and very singular tenderness for the "peculiar and pestilent institution," among those soldiers in their New Orleans prisons, as witnesses among many Northern people now-a-days. We have no idea that there is one of those prisoners of war, whether Democrat or Republican, who holds that slavery, in its deadly contest with the Government, "mustn't be touched."

—Independent (N. H.) Democrat.

EMANCIPATION.

We must deal with slavery as with other wrong institutions, and put a stop to its ruinous effects by terminating its existence.

If the present is a favorable time, as we believe it to be, to abolish slavery in the border States, it is also a suitable one for the Federal Government to step forward with its offers of assistance to those States. They may not take the initiative, but if such an offer were made, we believe they would respond, and might see legislative action taken without delay for emancipation.

As to the claim of remuneration to the slaveholder in payment for his slaves, we believe that in strict justice it has no foundation whatever. He is deprived of nothing whatever to which he has a just title. He loses the power over the person of the slave, the power of dragging and selling him at will, and of compelling him to labor without just reward. But he does not lose the slave's services. He obtains them as the services of a free man, in the same way as those who in Massachusetts would not destroy the labor of others, by offering a suitable reward. This is the only relation which ought to subsist between men in regard to labor, that of the free demand and offer of services. No other is just, no other secures the welfare of the people.

But although we do not believe in the claim of the slave-master to remuneration, the masters themselves do not view it in that light, and would probably demand a premium as a condition of their consent to emancipation, and we should not object to this, provided that could be secured. It would be an immense gain, both to the border States themselves and to the whole country, to get rid of slavery, and we should begrudge no reasonable sum to accomplish this object; and we believe the people of the free States would cheerfully pay a proportion of the requisite amount. Taking the number of slaves at 400,000, their value, at \$400 each, (and this is probably too high an estimate, in the present condition of slavery,) would amount to \$160,000,000. This is a sum which would be paid to the slaveholders, and would be a great boon to the country. It would be an annual expenditure for purposes of war. It would in the end prove a gain instead of a sacrifice.

We should be glad to see Mr. Sumner introduce a proposition into Congress the coming winter to carry out the plan we have suggested. It would be a great and a statesmanlike act, and one worthy of his hearty sympathies with justice and freedom.—*New Bedford Republican Standard*.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER.

The Boston Journal has joined hands with the *Post, Courier and Herald*, in their crusade against Charles Sumner, on account of his Worcester speech, and indeed seems to labor to go further than they in efforts to create a prejudice against the Senator.

It even charges him with being opposed to the Administration on account of emancipation sentiments. This is put in it on rather a strong ground. Did the *Journal* read nothing in Mr. Sumner's speech urging the most vigorous prosecution of the war, to the complete and utter crushing out of the rebellion? And is it to oppose the Administration to suggest certain means which, in the speaker's opinion, would tend more effectively and speedily to effect the object? Is every man in the country to go to Washington and ascertain from the President and his Cabinet what measures and policy it would be agreeable to their high-mightiness to have proposed and discussed? Is America so far gone that we must have the Napoleonic system introduced here, of allowing nothing to be said on political affairs which is not agreeable to his imperial majesty? We hope not.

The Administration is placed in power to carry out the public will, and not to control it or suppress its expression. Self-abnegation goes altogether too far when it renounces the right of free discussion of measures of public policy. The subject of emancipation is being pondered and discussed to a wider extent every day. Its consideration is confined to no sect and no party, and those cowardly politicians who are so alarmed lest bold, manly, and Christian sentiments shall find vent in a crisis like the present, are only preparing their own political graves.

The animus of this tirade against Sumner is sufficiently apparent from the place of its origin. It is confined almost entirely to Boston, the stronghold of this State of the bunkers class of politicians, of those who have always favored compromise with slavery, and submission to all its demands, and who have followed Mr. Sumner with the most virulent hate throughout his whole career. It is decidedly rich to see the *Journal* in harmony with the *Courier*, a paper which opposed the Administration till it was in danger of having its office torn down, and then in a spasmodic article called on the Captain to "save the ship" by suspending the *habeas corpus*, occupy and hold every seceding State with an armed force, and which but the other day proclaimed the necessity of a reaction in politics, that is, the overthrow of the Administration and carrying on the Government on the plan of those two traitors, John Bell and John C. Breckinridge. This is strange double-dealing. But both papers act on one principle. They are faithful to the hand that feeds them, and when judged by the proper standard, are much better men, and would make much better citizens, than are their ambitious, restless and tyrannical masters.

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The Liberator.

No Union with Slaveholders!

BOSTON, FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 1861.

"I lay this down as the law of nations. I say that the military authority takes, for the time, the place of all municipal institutions, slavery among the rest. Under that state of things, so far from its being true that the States where slavery exists have the exclusive management of the subject, not only the President of the United States, but the commander of the army, has power to order the universal emancipation of the slaves."

"From the instant that your slaveholding States become the theatre of war, civil, or foreign, from that instant the war powers of Congress extend to interference with the institution of slavery in every way in which it can be interfered with, from a claim of indemnity for slaves taken or destroyed, to the cessation of the State bar to slavery to a foreign power."

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

The following Memorial to the next Congress has been prepared for universal circulation, with the belief that it will readily be adopted by all but those who are in favor of eternizing the accursed system of slavery—who, while pretending to be on the side of the Government, are secretly in hearty sympathy with the Southern traitors—and who would prefer to see the Federal forces every where defeated, the blood and substance of the people expended to no purpose, and the rule of the Southern Confederacy victorious over the whole country, rather than have the oppressed set free under law, even though a satisfactory adjustment is proposed in the case of the so-called loyal slaveholders.

Let the most active measures be at once taken to secure the signatures of men and women, voters and non-voters, to this Memorial, in every city, town and village. A million such can be easily obtained by energetic and concerted action—but no time is to be lost. In a note just received from Gerrit Smith, he says—"I am glad to receive this morning from Boston, three copies of a Petition of excellent form. I immediately put my name to one, and will, without delay, have them all in circulation. Let the enclosed draft be accepted as my share of the expense in scattering copies of the Petition over the country."

Printed copies of the Petition, for gratuitous circulation, may be obtained at the Anti-Slavery Offices in Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

MEMORIAL OF THE PEOPLE TO CONGRESS. PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND, TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF.

To the Congress of the United States: The undersigned, citizens of the State of _____, respectfully submit—

That as the present formidable rebellion against the General Government manifestly finds its root and nourishment in the system of chattel slavery at the South; as the leading conspirators are slaveholders, who constitute an oligarchy avowedly hostile to all free institutions; and as, in the nature of things, no solid peace can be maintained while the cause of this treasonable revolt is permitted to exist; your honorable body is urgently implored to lose no time in enacting, under the war power, the total abolition of slavery throughout the country—liberating unconditionally the slaves of all who are rebels, and, while not recognizing the right of property in man, allowing for the emancipated slaves of such as are loyal to the government a fair pecuniary award, in order to facilitate an amicable adjustment of difficulties; and thus to bring the war to a speedy and beneficent termination, and indissolubly to unite all sections and all interests of the country upon the enduring basis of universal freedom.

Some of these articles are of a high order of excellence. The sketch of George Sand, founded on her autobiography, is written by Mrs. Howe. Of the poems, "The Flower of Liberty" is attributed to Holmes, and "The Washers of the Shroud" to James Russell Lowell. The latter, using an old legend as the means of presenting truths of most serious import at the present time, suggests a result to our national contest corresponding with our sins against justice and freedom. The continuation of Mrs. Stowe's interesting tale touches upon some of the mental and moral influences of enforced celibacy among the Roman Catholic priesthood. Harriet Martineau contributes the excellent Essay called "Health in the Camp"; and "The Contrabands at Fortress Monroe," containing highly interesting facts respecting the slaves, is written by a private in one of the Massachusetts regiments, E. L. Pierce, Esq.

Official Map of the State of Virginia: from actual surveys by order of the Executive, 1828 and 1850, corrected and revised by J. T. Floyd to 1861. Price \$1, colored in Counties, or ten copies for \$5. Mounted on linen with rollers, warranted, \$250. Address J. T. Floyd, Publisher, 164 Broadway, New York.

The portion of this map now issued is the Eastern half, which is sent in advance, on account of the intense interest now existing in regard to the movements of various armies in that part of the State. Being on a scale of ten miles to the inch, it is sufficiently full to illustrate all the details of the war in that region. Its names of places are distinctly printed and not crowded, and the ordinary roads as well as railroads are clearly traced. This map is said to be the one used by General Scott in preparing the plan of his campaign. The Western half, printed so as to match this, will be sent to subscribers in the course of the next month.

"America and her Destiny: Inspirational Discourse, given extemporaneously at Dodworth's Hall, New York, on Sunday evening, Aug. 25th, 1861, through Emma Hardinge, by the Spirits."

This address, printed in an octavo pamphlet of fifteen pages, treats of various matters of reform, in a spirit such as might be expected from the excellent woman who utters it, and in that style, so attractive to some and so distasteful to others, which marks all the productions which claim a "spiritual" origin. It is for sale at Mr. Bela Marsh's book-store.

THE PETITION TO CONGRESS is received with great favor by our friends in every section of the country from which we have heard. Signatures to it are readily obtained, and great numbers feel that this is the indispensable work of the hour. It has been our aim to send a copy of the petition to every town where we knew of a reliable person who would take charge of its circulation. Additional copies have been called for in numerous instances, and we are still ready to supply such calls. Now is the time for the work, and not a day is to be lost, as Congress will assemble in a little more than five weeks. There can be no doubt that in a great proportion of the towns of the North, large majorities of the people would sign the petition, if an opportunity were afforded. Let us not fail to gather together the evidence of this mighty force, to the shame and confusion of all who desire to perpetuate human slavery, and to give it the protection of the free men and women of this land. Address Anti-Slavery Office, 221 Washington Street, Boston.

RELIEF OF FUGITIVES IN CANADA. An Association has been formed in the town of St. Catherine's, Niagara District, Canada West, to relieve such fugitive slaves as may be suffering from sickness or destitution. It is called—"The Fugitive Aid Society of St. Catherine's." The officers are the following:—

Charles H. Hall, President; Benjamin Fletcher, Vice-President; Christopher Anthony, Secretary; H. W. Wilkins, Assistant Secretary; William Hutchinson, Treasurer.

Committee: Harriet Tabman, Mary Hutchinson, John Jones, William H. Stewart.

This Association may be relied on as worthy of confidence by those who wish to help the fugitives in Canada, many of whom are undoubtedly in need of such aid.

There continue to be, as there have been for the week past, conflicting rumors about General Fremont. The wish of those who would have him removed breaks out in constant reports that he is to be removed.

A similar course of systematic misrepresentation of the facts of slavery and the purposes of anti-slavery is one habitual ingredient of the pious *Journal of Commerce*. In an article now lying before us, entitled "Englishmen and Slavery," its editor deprecates "immediate and violent abolition," as if the former included the latter; as if the opposers of slavery had not for thirty years been advancing immediate peaceful abolition, and showing how it might be accomplished, and how prosperity and manifold advantage to the country would be its necessary result; and as if the trouble, confusion and violence now existing in our country had not sprung directly from the pertinacious rejection of these counsels, and from adherence, instead, to the *Journal's* own policy of constant concession to the slaveholders. This editor assumes that "murder and rapine" would result from the overthrow of slavery; winking out of sight the frightful fact that slavery is an organized system of habitual rapine, with frequent complications of murder; and thus showing his own shameful willingness that this tyranny should continue while his white brethren can wield it.

The *Journal of Commerce* contradicts history as well as reason when it talks about "arousing slaves to insurrection by declaring them free." Apart from our present complication with war, a willing immediate emanc

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor discoloration and a small dark spot near the center. A faint, dark, curved mark is visible along the bottom edge, possibly a shadow or a mark from the binding process.

